

Message Text

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TAGS: PINT, CO

SUBJ: RESIGNATION OF LIBERAL GOVERNOR, RAUL OREJUELA BUENO

1. LIBERAL GOVERNOR, RAUL OREJUELA BUENO, YESTERDAY ANNOUNCED HIS RESIGNATION AS GOVERNOR OF THE DEPARTAMENTO DEL VALLE. THE ANNOUNCEMENT CAME AS NO SURPRISE TO CALI WHICH HAD BEEN AFLOAT WITH RUMOURS OF A CHANGE IN GOVERNOR FOR SEVERAL WEEKS.

2. ACCORDING TO LOCAL SPECULATION, THE LIBERAL DIRECTORATE IN ANTIOQUIA HAS PRESSED THE ADMINISTRATION FOR A LIBERAL GOVERNOR IN THAT DEPARTMENT WHICH, IF GRANTED, WOULD NECESSITATE A CONSERVATIVE GOVERNOR FOR A COMPARABLE SIZED DEPARTMENT ELSEWHERE.

3. THERE IS WIDESPREAD SPECULATION THAT RAUL OREJUELA, WHO HAS SERVED AS VICE-MINISTER OF HEALTH AND IS A CLOSE POLITICAL ALLY AND PERSONAL FRIEND OF THE PRESIDENT, MAY RECEIVE A CABINET APPOINTMENT AS MINISTER OF HEALTH.

4. FRONT RUNNER OF VARIOUS CONSERVATIVE CANDIDATES FOR THE GOVERNORSHIP IS CARLOS HOLGUIN SARDI, FORMER MAYOR OF CALI AND EX-MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS DURING THE LATTER PART OF THE PASTRANA ADMINISTRATION. ANOTHER VIABLE CANDIDATE IS THE PRESENT MAYOR, ALFREDO CARVAJAL SINISTERRA, SCION OF THE CARVAJAL FAMILY, WHO IS A NON-PROFESSIONAL POLITICIAN AND CONSEQUENTLY LESS WORRYSOME FROM THE LIBERAL STANDPOINT.

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5. AT LEAST ONE POLITICAL INSIDER HAS INDICATED THAT A CONSERVATIVE

GOVERNOR WOULD WORK TO THE ADVANTAGE OF THE LIBERAL PARTY IN THAT
IT WOULD PERMIT A LIBERAL MAYOR FOR CALI, THE CENTRE OF LIBERAL
STRENGTH IN THE DEPARTMENT OF VALLE.

6. OREJUELA'S SUCCESSOR IS EXPECTED TO BE APPOINTED BY THIS
COMING WEEKEND.
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